

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,304,284 B1 to Dunton et al ("Dunton").

The acknowledgement, in the Office Action, of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and that the certified copy of the priority document has been received, is noted with appreciation.

The indication, in the Office Action, that the Examiner has no objections to the drawings filed on October 17, 2001, is noted with appreciation.

Claims 1, 5, and 9 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. These changes do not introduce any new matter.

**Authority**

In December 2004 it was learned that a change of Address/Power of Attorney had been erroneously entered in the present application. Efforts are underway to correct this error. In the interim, the owner of the present application has instructed that this amendment and response be prepared and filed. Accordingly, this response is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.33(b)(2) and 1.34.

**35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection**

The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dunton, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, "a photoelectrically converting device and a scanning mechanism disposed from a support adapted to establish

a reference position of the scanning mechanism relative to the original” and “detecting a degree of the operation of the scanning mechanism relative to the reference position every directing by the scanning mechanism.” The amendment finds support in the specification, for example, as L-shaped stopper 2 in Fig. 1 and reference position  $\epsilon$  of Fig. 5, further described at paragraphs [0034] and [0042], respectively.

The amendment requires that the “an image shooting apparatus” includes a mechanism for establishing a known position and orientation of the scanning mechanism and the original relative to each other. It is respectfully submitted that Dunton does not disclose such a feature. Accordingly, claim 1 distinguishes over Dunton because the latter fails to disclose an element of the claim.

Independent claim 5 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, a method for connecting split images of an original including a step of “placing the original in a reference position such that the original has a predetermined location and orientation relative to an image shooting device.” The amendment finds support in the specification, for example, as L-shaped stopper 2 in Fig. 1 and reference position  $\epsilon$  of Fig. 5, further described at paragraphs [0034] and [0042], respectively.

It is respectfully submitted that Dunton does not disclose establishing a known position and orientation of the scanning mechanism and the original relative to each other. Accordingly, claim 5 distinguishes over Dunton because the latter fails to disclose an element of the claim.

Independent claim 9 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, “a registration member for providing a reference position and orientation of the original relative to the directing member.” The amendment finds support in the specification, for example, as L-shaped stopper 2 in Fig. 1 and reference position  $\epsilon$  of Fig. 5, further described at paragraphs [0034] and [0042], respectively.

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It is respectfully submitted that Dunton does not disclose a registration member as claimed. Accordingly, claim 5 distinguishes over Dunton because the latter fails to disclose an element of the claim.

Dependent claims 2-4, 6-9, and 10-11 depend from claims 1, 5, and 9, respectively. Therefore these claims distinguish over Dunton for at least the same reasons as provided above regarding their respective base claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Dunton, be reconsidered and withdrawn.

### **CONCLUSION**

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

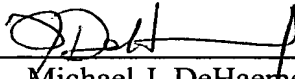
If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee,

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and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's  
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Respectfully submitted,

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